Water Works and Drainage.

27. *Willingdon Water Works—1st and 2nd Stage and Supplemental Works.* The 1st stage works are nearing completion and the accounts are being closed urgently. Under the 2nd stage works, the laying of mains over a length of 42 miles has been completed. The total length of mains laid under the 1st and 2nd stages till now is about 120 miles. The reconstruction of the Water Works Division Office has been completed and the building occupied on 10-1-1113. Due to the early setting in of the monsoon and the incessant rains and the consequent floods in the river at Aruvikarai, the construction of bathing ghats could not be proceeded with and completed. The total amount of expenditure at the end of the current year is expected to stand at Rs. 57'40 lakhs. The next year's provision under this head is Rs. 1'04 lakhs. The amount of contribution recoverable from the Municipality for the year 1114, according to the arrangements already arrived at, is Rs. 90,000.

28. *Water Supply Schemes to mofussil towns.*

(1) *Nagercoil.* Against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 16'85 lakhs under the scheme, the expenditure to the end of the current year is expected to stand at Rs. 7'22 lakhs nearly. The acquisition of lands for the work has been completed and works commenced. Foundation work connected with the construction of Dam and Head works has been started and the construction of the Low Level Reservoir has been put in hand. The supply of Hume Steel Pipes for the Gravitation Main and the Asbestos Cement Pipes for the Town Distribution System is in progress. The next year's provision for this item is Rs. 6'53 lakhs.

(2) *Alleppey and Shencottah.* In these cases also, the works have commenced and are making good progress. Provision to the extent of Rs. 4'33 lakhs and Rs. 1'25 lakhs respectively has been made for 1114 for these items and it is expected that water will be made available by about the close of 1114.

29. *Water Supply to Pilgrims at Sabarimala.* The question of providing good drinking water to the pilgrims who congregate in large numbers at Sabarimala during the Makaravilakku festival had been engaging the attention of Government for some time past. A reconnaisance survey was conducted and the feasibility of pumping water from the Pumba River at the foot of the Sabarimala Hills up to the temple premises, a distance of about a mile and a half, investigated. The initial cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 38,000 and the annual recurring charge berween Rs. 150 and Rs. 200. It is proposed to start the work and have it completed soon so as to make water available to pilgrims at the next Makaravilakku festival. The expenditure is debitable to Devaswom Fund budget.

30. *Drainage Scheme, Trivandrum.*—Sewer laying work for an aggregate length of 20 miles with the manholes and house branches on them has been completed. The construction of the Pumping Station at the Kuriathi Ela is expected to commence shortly. The provision

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

for the next year under this item is Rs. 8·52 lakhs, and besides this, a sum of Rs. 25,000 is also provided for Sanitary Installation in Government Buildings.

A provision of Rs. 40,000 has also been included for a Drainage Scheme for the Alleppey Town.

31. *Town Planning Scheme.* The expenditure on this scheme is expected to stand at Rs 9·5 lakhs at the close of this year and for the next year a sum of Rs 3·58 lakhs has been provided for the continuance of the works included in the scheme. The formation of a Special Town Planning Committee of the Trivandrum Municipal Council for drawing up a definite programme of work to be carried out under the Town Planning Scheme is in contemplation.

32. *The Council Chamber.*—The construction of the Council Chamber is making rapid progress and it is hoped that it would be possible very shortly to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Travancore Legislative Council. Water supply and electric fittings as also sanitary installations are proceeding side by side with the actual construction work. The expenditure on account of this work is expected to stand at Rs 1·68 lakhs at the close of the current year and for the next year the provision is Rs 1 lakh.

33. *Military Buildings.* A regular programme of building construction is going on vigorously in the premises of the Military Head Quarters at Pangode to meet the needs of the general re-organisation of the State Forces. Buildings which were in progress last year are nearing completion and new ones also are being taken up. The total expenditure on the buildings is expected to stand at Rs 10·2 lakhs at the close of the current year and a provision of Rs 3 lakhs has been made in the next year's budget for the completion of the buildings already taken up and the construction of new ones which are found to be absolutely necessary.

34. *Railways.* The capital charge for the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway and the Chackai-Thambanoor Extension at the close of the year ending 31st March 1937 was Bh Rs 53·63 lakhs and Rs 28·33 lakhs respectively. The budget estimate 1114 provides for a net credit of Rs 29,600 on account of the relinquishment of lands acquired for Railway purposes at the old station at Chackai. The agreement between the Secretary of State and this Government for the working of the Chackai-Thambanoor Railway Extension is still pending, and the Extension is provisionally worked by the South Indian Railway Company as part of the Quilon-Trivandrum Section of the Travancore Railway.

The working of the Railway resulted in a loss of Bh. Rs 42,874 for the year ending 31st March 1938 representing the deficit in the interest guaranteed by the Government, the amount being worked out on yearly calculations in place of the half-yearly calculations hitherto followed, according to the revised orders of the Government of India. A sum of Bh. Rs 15,052 has also been refunded by the Railway Company as a

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

result of the acceptance by the Government of India of our contention that the loss in the working of the Travancore Railway should be apportioned between the Government of India and this Government in proportion to the capital outlay incurred on British and Indian State Sections of the Tinnevelly-Quilon line alone.

In this connection I am glad to inform the House that though the Government of India considered in 1932 that our contention that the advances made by the Secretary of State for India for discharge of Debentures should be charged interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent only was unjustified, they have, as a result of our representation, now agreed to charge interest on such advances at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent only. The saving involved is about Rupees half a lakh.

COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

35. *Pallivasal Hidro Electric Project.* Last year the House was informed that the original Power House for the project was found to be not quite satisfactory and that therefore a new Power House at a new site had to be constructed. The new Transformer Yard at Pallivasal has been fixed and the erection in the Yard is in progress. The new Power House building is under construction and I am glad to report that solid rock foundations have been obtained therefor. It is hoped that the installation of the machinery could be done by about the 3rd quarter of the next year. It is anticipated that the scheme will be in commercial service for about 3 months next year and an approximate revenue of Rs 1 lakh has been provided in the next year's budget under this scheme. The total expenditure as at the end of the current year is expected to be Rs 106·24 lakhs and the next year's provision is Rs 31·30 lakhs. Judging by the experience of similar works elsewhere such as Pykara and Mysore, the Scheme should be able to pay a substantial return on the outlay from the second year of its operation.

As power from the Power House at Pallivasal is not yet available, a small Power House has been built as a temporary measure at Kalamassery with second hand generating sets purchased from Coimbatore for meeting the demand for the supply of power to the Sri Chitra Mills, Alwaye. This had to be done in order to secure the market for electric supply and to avoid the installation of thermal stations by possible consumers. The Municipal Town of Alwaye has also been brought under electric supply very recently.

In accordance with the present anticipations and forecast of revenue and expenditure, the scheme is expected to meet interest, depreciation and sinking fund charges and operation expenses within three years from the commencement of the supply.

36. *Trivandrum Electric Supply.* The total cost of this scheme is expected to be Rs. 10·73 lakhs at the close of the current year and Rs. 11·46 lakhs at the close of the next year. The present generation is 1·3 million units as against 1·17 million units last year. The number of consumers is also steadily increasing. The gross receipts for

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly